IT ALLIANCE SPRING 2021 MEETING MINUTES
Romain College of Business at USI
Friday, April 30, 2021, 8:00 a.m.
Zoom

Members Present: James Derk, Abram Devonshire, Scott Franzel, Patrick Heck, Lisa Hobgood, John Knight, Alan Letterman, Andrew Melchiors, Drew Peyronnin, Kim Poynter, Kelly Reisinger, Dave Smith

Members Absent: Terry Clements, Jeff Gorman, Bob Humphrey, Paul Kilroy, Kevin Kolley, Doug Petitt, Nic Sagez, Anthony Spitz, Richard Toeniskoetter, Mark Uhrin, Paige Vinall

Ex-officio Members Present: Cathy Carey, Abbey Foroughi, Brian McGuire

Faculty Present: Xue Han, Josh McWilliams, Kasra Pourang, Kenneth Shemroske, Wendy Wooldridge, Gongjun Yan

Students Present: 16 Senior Project students attended.

Administrative Assistant Present: Michelle Simmons

WELCOME: Alan Letterman welcomed everyone to the spring meeting.

SELF-INTRODUCTIONS: Letterman requested self-introductions. Due to the meeting format, Michelle Simmons called the roll and had those in attendance confirm.

MINUTES: Letterman asked for a motion to approve the Fall 2020 minutes as distributed. The minutes were APPROVED.

IT ALLIANCE CHAIR'S REMARKS: Letterman stated that wanted to keep the Alliance running smoothly and hopes to meet again in person in the fall. He noted the plan to resume the committees over the summer and fall. He reminded the alliance members to continue funding the IT Alliance scholarship.

Letterman requested alliance members to consider senior projects for the fall. He is looking for quality project to help the students and wants more than just websites.

Dave Smith agreed about the re-engagement of the committees and noted that goals need to be set to track progress.

MEMBERSHIP: The following members were renewed via an email vote earlier in the year – James Derk, Pat Heck, Lisa Hobgood, Bob Humphrey, John Knight, Kim Poynter, Kelly Reisinger, Dave Smith, Mark Uhrin.

INTERNSHIPS: The internship report was provided after the meeting and is attached.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S REMARKS: (Report Attached) Abbas Foroughi thanked Letterman and Smith for their leadership and the alliance members for their support. He discussed the new faculty and new

courses for adult learners and students. Foroughi noted the changes in skills and the dominant locations for those skills.

Foroughi talked about AI and IoT rising and how the CIS and CS disciplines are developing. The following poll was conducted with the results of 85% approval for both.

We are considering offering Certificates in AI and in Software Engineering for CS students.

1.Do you think that earning a Certificate in AI would increase our CS graduates' chances of securing a good job at a higher pay level?
•   Yes
•   No
2.Do you think that earning a Certificate in Software Engineering would increase our CS graduates' chances of securing a good job at a higher pay level?
•   Yes
•   No

Smith asked if there was a report on placement. Foroughi stated that most graduating seniors are employed with some starting early and not finishing their degrees. There is no precise survey currently.

DEAN'S REMARKS: (Report Attached) Cathy Carey thanked everyone for coming. She noted that the alliance support of the faculty and students means a lot. She thanked Foroughi for his kind remarks and forward thinking.

Carey discussed the adult learning 12-hour certificates that includes no prerequisites. She hopes employers will encourage their workers to participate. She discussed the open faculty positions due to retirements and the removal of the employment freeze.

Carey discussed the Romain College of Business strategic plan and that the college is in the implementation stage. She noted that engagement is a big part of the plan.

Smith asked about developing success measurements. Carey noted that there are three goals for each item on the plan with action plans available. She noted that a base line annual report is intended with a new report each year.

Carey noted that there is an accreditation review coming up soon.

CS/CIS SENIOR PROJECTS: Gongjun Yan managed the senior projects. Four teams presented at the meeting.

1. Appointment Management for Small Businesses (Local Hair Salon) - Patton, Lucas S.; Roettger, Lukas A.; Jackson, Brenna; Dalton-Ferguson, Conner

2. The Game Gallery for Social Gaming Discovery - Biddle, Sutton W.; Hardin, Zachary J.; Bailey, Ryan M.; Sapp, Collin

3. Location Based Job Management Service (Alliance Tree Services) - Begle, Colten B.; Dodson, Sean P.; Hipp, Rockford J.; Duncan, Cianna

4. Volunteer and Non-Profit Impact Reporting Service (Borrowed Hearts) - Huff, Gavyn; Barton, Kaylee; Smock, Max; Culver, Mitch

NEXT STEPS: No next steps were given at this time.

Foroughi thanked the students for their presentations and closed the meeting.

ADJOURNED